

President's High Growth Job Training Initiative

Building Capacity for Transit Workforce Development



Grant Amount: \$2,000,000

Grantee: Community Transportation Development Center (CTDC)

Key Partners: American Public Transportation Association, Metropolitan Atlanta (Ga.) Transit Agency, Portland (Ore.) Tri-Met, Washington (D.C.) Metropolitan Transit Agency, Buckeye (Ohio) Transit Career Ladder Partnership, Keystone (Pa.) Transit Career Ladder Partnership, Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU) Local 732, ATU Local 689, ATU Local 757, ATU Local 85, ATU Local 268, Transport Workers Union (TWU) Local 234, TWU Local 208, local Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs)

Leveraged Amount: \$29,000,000 through in-kind contributions

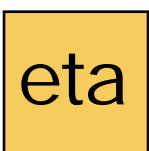
Location of Grant Activities: Atlanta, Ga.; Portland, Ore.; Washington, D.C.; Ohio; Pennsylvania; Utah

Challenge: Total employment in the transit sector is projected to increase from approximately 371,000 jobs in 2002 to roughly 487,000 jobs in 2012. The sector is also experiencing significant technological change along with the retirement of existing workers. These trends are resulting in skill shortages, particularly in maintenance occupations.

Addressing the Challenge: CTDC will create standards, and systems for apprenticeship, training, and skill certification for five transit maintenance occupations: transit bus mechanics, rail mechanics, rail signal maintainers, elevator/escalator technicians, and equipment maintainers. CTDC and its key partners will develop consensus standards for these occupations, as well as curriculum and course materials that support these standards. CTDC also will develop models for mentoring and support systems to assist new employees. CTDC will help boost the training capacity of transit organizations by developing models for training partnerships in regions and states, in addition to models and materials to help transit systems and labor-management organizations develop effective partnerships with WIBs and One-Stop Career Centers. CTDC will pilot the new standards, models, and other resources at five sites, serving nearly 240 employees in apprenticeship programs. CTDC will help ensure that standards, models, and other resources are adopted nationally by working with industry leaders for formal endorsement of the standards and disseminating all these resources throughout the transit sector.

Projected Outcomes:

- A national apprenticeship system for bus mechanics will be created;
- National apprenticeship systems will begin to be created for rail vehicle mechanics, rail signal maintainers, elevator/escalator technicians, and equipment maintainers;
- 3,338 individuals will receive transit maintenance training based on national standards developed through this initiative;
- Broad-based dissemination of standards, models, and materials.



EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

*Transportation Demonstration Grants
Announced on October 17, 2005*